

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled)

11. (New): An apparatus for maintaining control of power in a spread-spectrum system, comprising:

(a) a base station (BS); and

(b) a subscriber unit (SU), for sending to the base station (BS), using spread-spectrum modulation, a SU-spreading code on a status channel, wherein:

(i) the BS detects the SU-spreading code from the SU, and sends to the SU, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the SU-spreading code, a BS-spreading code on a checkup channel; and

(ii) the SU detects the BS-spreading code on the checkup channel, and in response to detecting BS-spreading code, the SU transmits a message longer than the SU-spreading code which includes the SU-spreading code, and in response to not detecting the BS-spreading code, the SU increases transmit power of the SU.

12. (New): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the SU periodically sends to the BS, using spread-spectrum modulation, the SU-spreading code, having a symbol length, on the status channel.

13. (New): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the BS sends to the SU, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the SU-spreading code, the BS-spreading code having a symbol length on the checkup channel.

14. (New): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the SU periodically sends to the BS, using spread-spectrum modulation, the SU-spreading code, having a symbol length, on the status channel, and the BS sends to the SU, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the SU-spreading code, the BS-spreading code having a symbol length on the checkup channel.

15. (New): An apparatus for maintaining control of power in a spread-spectrum system, comprising:

(a) base means; and

(b) subscriber means, for sending to the base means using spread-spectrum modulation, a SU-spreading code on a status channel, wherein:

(i) the base means detects the SU-spreading code from the subscriber means, and sends to the subscriber means, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the SU-spreading code, a BS-spreading code on a checkup channel; and

(ii) the subscriber means detects the BS-spreading code on the checkup channel, and in response to detecting BS-spreading code, the subscriber means transmits a message longer than the SU-spreading code which includes the SU-spreading code, and in response to not detecting the BS-spreading code, the subscriber means increases transmit power of the subscriber means.

16. (New): The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the subscriber means periodically sends to the base means, using spread-spectrum modulation, the SU-spreading code, having a symbol length, on the status channel.

17. (New): The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the base means sends to the subscriber means, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the SU-spreading code, the BS-spreading code having a symbol length on the checkup channel.

18. (New): The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the subscriber means periodically sends to the base means, using spread-spectrum modulation, the SU-spreading code, having a symbol length, on the status channel, and the base means sends to the subscriber means, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the SU-spreading code, the BS-spreading code having a symbol length on the checkup channel.

19. (New): An apparatus for maintaining control of power in a spread-spectrum system, comprising:

(a) a base station (BS); and

(b) a subscriber unit (SU) for sending to the BS, using spread-spectrum modulation, a SU-spreading code on a status channel, wherein:

(i) the BS detects the SU-spreading code from the SU, and sends to the SU, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the SU-spreading code, a BS-spreading code on a checkup channel; and

(ii) the SU detects the BS-spreading code on the checkup channel, and in response to detecting BS-spreading code, the SU transmits a message longer than the SU-spreading code which includes the SU-spreading code, and in response to not detecting the BS-spreading code, the SU increases transmit power of the SU.